

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 SY-05 CPR-01 SS-15

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 /056 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8855

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 04199

STATE FOR EUR/SOV

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: EEWT, ETRD, UR

SUBJECT: INCIDENTS INVOLVING AMEXCO REPS IN MOSCOW

REF: (A) STATE 58622, (B) MOSCOW 3204

1. AMEXCO'S MOSCOW REP TEDESCO TOLD COMATT MARCH 9 THAT HE COULD ADD LITTLE TO MARSCHALKO'S ACCOUNT OF HIS DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSION REPORTED REFTEL (B). MARSCHALKO, TEDESCO SAID, IS NOW IN UNITED STATES AND IS PRESUMABLY IN TOUCH WITH HANSEN-STURM DIRECTLY. AS REPORTED REFTEL (B), INTOURIST'S CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, SIMCHENKO, DID NOT ACCOMPANY MARSCHALKO TO GAI HEADQUARTERS AS HE HAD REPORTEDLY AGREED TO DO, BUT RATHER SENT ALONG A JUNIOR INTOURIST OFFICIAL WHO ASSISTED MARSCHALKO AS NOTHING MORE THAN AN INTERPRETER. AS FOR MARSCHALKO BEING "NOT WORRIED" ABOUT SUSPENSION OF HIS LICENSE, THAT IS PROBABLY TECHNICALLY CORRECT, ACCORDING TO TEDESCO, SINCE FORMER HAS STATED TO TEDESCO (AND TO COMATT SEPARATELY) THAT HE DOES NOT INTEND TO BE HARRIED OUT OF MOSCOW BY INCIDENT. MARSCHALKO WILL RETURN TO
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USSR WITH RANKING AMEXCO DELEGATION TO TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL'S TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING ON OR ABOUT MARCH 18. ALTHOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HE HAS MADE PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS WITH SIMCHENKO TO RETURN IN LATTER'S COMPANY TO GAO HEADQUARTERS FOR ANOTHER GO AT RETRIEVING SUSPENDED LICENSE, HE HAS NOT COMMUNICATED THAT FACT EITHER TO TEDESCO OR TO US.

2. TEDESCO CONFIRMED THAT HIS CAR HAD BEEN BROKEN INTO (FOR SECOND TIME) IN PARKING LOT IN FRONT OF HIS APARTMENT BUILDING ON MARCH 7. (FIRST BREAK-IN OCCURRED IN NOVEMBER 1977 IN SAME AREA, ALTHOUGH TEDESCO DID NOT THINK MATTER IMPORTANT ENOUGH AT TIME TO REPORT IT TO EMBASSY.) IN MOST RECENT INCIDENT BOTH TAIL LIGHT LENSES WERE REMOVED FROM HIS VOLVO STATION WAGON AS WELL AS AUTO'S INSIGNIA. ADDITIONALLY, VANDALS TRIED TO BREAK INTO BACK DOOR AND DESTROYED LOCK IN PROCESS. INCIDENT LAST NOVEMBER INVOLVED THEFT OF CAR'S STEREO EQUIPMENT AND SMASHED SIDE WINDOW. TEDESCO SAID THAT HE HAS NOW PROTESTED BOTH INCIDENTS TO INTOURIST'S SIMCHENKO. FORMER AMEXCO MOSCOW REP ROGER SCHMIDT HAD REPORTEDLY PLACED HIS NAME ON APARTMENT WAITING LIST FOR INSIDE GARAGE SPACE AND TEDESCO IS NOW IN PROCESS OF CHECKING THAT OUT. SIMCHENKO HAS PROMISED TO SUPPORT TEDESCO WITH LOCAL SOVIET HOUSING COMMITTEE IN THIS MATTER.

3. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING PERSONAL AGGRAVATION CAUSED BY THESE WIDELY SEPARATED INCIDENTS, TEDESCO DID NOT SEE IN THEM ANY OFFICIAL POLICY OF HARASSMENT BY SOVIETS AND ATTRIBUTED BOTH BREAK-INS TO LOCAL PETTY CRIMINALS. IN FACT, HAD NOT COMATT APPROACHED HIM ON MARCH 7 INCIDENT AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL (A), IT IS NOT LIKELY HE WOULD HAVE REPORTED LATTER INCIDENT TO US, EITHER. TOON
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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